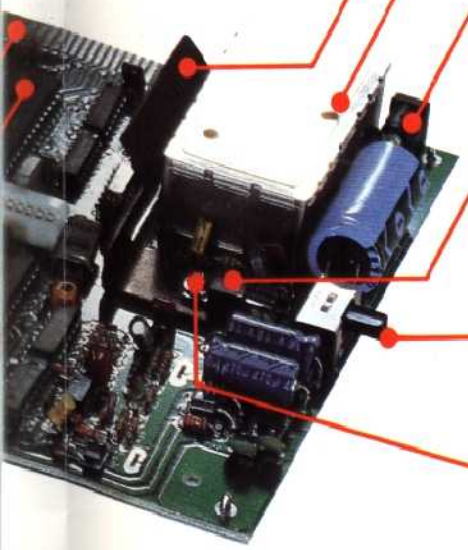

**Heat Sink**
The Triac power regulating transistor becomes very hot when it's running, and the heat is dissipated by this large piece of metal

**TV Modulator**
This converts the data stream produced by the video circuitry into a Channel 36 TV signal, but with no sound on the TV signal. This is the only screen output, and there is no monitor socket on the machine

**Power Socket**
This is a normal low voltage co-axial socket. In common with all machines of this type, the Tandy MC-10 takes its power from a small low voltage transformer plugged into a wall socket



**Power Regulator**
The transformed but unregulated power is stabilised by this large transistor, together with other nearby components

**Power Switch**
Since the MC-10 has a reset button, this does not need to be used as an alternative, as on some machines

**Crystal**
4.4 MHz is the frequency generated by the master clock, which is subdivided into slower pulses and used throughout the machine

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## TANDY MC-10

**PRICE**
£49.95

**SIZE**
210 x 178 x 51mm

**CPU**
6803

**CLOCK SPEED**
4.4 MHz

**MEMORY**
8 Kbytes ROM
4 Kbytes RAM

**VIDEO DISPLAY**
16 lines of 32 characters, 9 colours with only background settable. 75 pre-defined characters

**INTERFACES**
RS232 serial, cassette

**LANGUAGES SUPPLIED**
BASIC

**OTHER LANGUAGES AVAILABLE**
NONE

**COMES WITH**
Operation and BASIC reference manuals, TV lead

**KEYBOARD**
48 button-style keys

**DOCUMENTATION**
Clear, competent and well-designed but rather lacking in technical information. The only major failing is the absence of an index. A quick-reference card is included, which gives enough details about the BASIC for an experienced person to start working the machine without delay

background must be black. Consequently, it's not possible to produce a blue shape on a red background, even in the graphics mode!

The sound function also has limitations. There is only one channel available, which allows minimal variations in pitch and duration only. Input/output facilities are to cassette (including remote control), television and an RS232 serial port. The serial port can be used as a data transfer line to and from other computers or, alternatively, to drive a printer. It can also be used to create a network with other Tandy MC-10s.

Games do not seem to have been a high priority with the machine's designers, who provided nothing in the way of paddle or joystick ports, nor any of the special graphics and sound controller chips found in other machines more suited to games playing.

Some expansion possibilities are clearly intended for the future, however, since there is a rather mysterious system-bus ending in an edge connector, which is covered by a screwed-on plate. Apart from stating that 'this slot is reserved for future memory expansion kits', the manual says nothing else about it, and provides no clues as to what accessories will be available to plug into it.

The documentation for the MC-10 is typical of that provided for Tandy's other machines: a rather aloof style of writing with few breaks in a fairly solid text.

As a low-cost machine, it is worth considering, but when reading the specifications remember that while it may have a nominal four Kbytes of RAM, only 3,142 bytes are available to the user, since the screen-RAM and some system variables have to come out of this allocation.